

## Chapter Four – Meeting Crooks

### Task One:

Read the opening pages of Chapter Four again. Fill in the missing gaps in the following quotations. These are all about Crooks' living area – a small shed.

1. Crooks had his bunk in the .....
2. Scattered about the floor were a number of personal possessions. He possessed several pairs of ....., a pair of..... , a big ..... and a .....
3. Crooks had books too. He had a dictionary and a mauled copy of the ..... for 1905.
4. Hanging from a nail above his bed were a pair of large .....  
.....
5. The room was swept and neat for Crooks was a ....., aloof man. He kept his ..... and ..... other people kept theirs.

### Task Two:

Draw and label Crooks' face using the paragraph beginning, 'The room was swept ...'



**Task Three:**

Throughout the chapter Crooks speaks to various characters. Who is he speaking to in each of the following quotations?

What Crooks says ...	Who he's speaking to ...
Cause I'm black. They play cards in there, but I can't play because I'm black. They say I stink. Well, I tell you, all of you stink to me.	
This is just a nigger talkin' an' a busted-back nigger. So it don't mean nothing, see?	
Want me ta tell ya what'll happen? They'll take ya to the booby hatch. They'll tie ya up with a collar, like a dog.	
Maybe you can see now. You got George ... s'pose you didn't have nobody. S'pose you couldn't go into the bunkhouse and play rummy cause you was black. How'd you like that? ... Books ain't no good. A guy needs somebody – to be near him.	
... every damn one of 'ems got a little piece of land in his head. An' never a god-damn one of 'em ever gets it.	
I remember when I was a little kid on my old man's chicken ranch. Had two brothers. They was always near me, always there.	
Slim comes in sometimes two, three times a night.	
And a manure pile under the window. Sure it's swell.	
You guys is just kiddin' yourself ... you'll be a swamper here til they take you out in a box.	
If you ... guys would want a hand to work for nothing – just his keep, why I'd come an' lend a hand. I ain't so crippled I can't work like a son-of-a-bitch if I want to.	
Yes, ma'am.	
You guys comin' in an' settin' made me forget. What she says is true.	
Lennie's a nice fella.	
I didn't mean it. Just foolin'. I wouldn't want to go to a place like that.	

## Chapter Four – Meeting Crooks

### Teacher's Answers

#### Task One:

1. Crooks had his bunk in the **(harness room)**.
2. Scattered about the floor were a number of personal possessions. He possessed several pairs of **(shoes)**, a pair of **(rubber boots)**, a big **(alarm clock)** and a **(single-barrelled shotgun)**.
3. Crooks had books too. He had a dictionary and a mauled copy of the **(California civil code)** for 1905.
4. Hanging from a nail above his bed were a pair of large **(gold-rimmed spectacles)**.
5. The room was swept and neat for Crooks was a **(proud)**, aloof man. He kept his **(distance)** and **(demanded that)** other people kept theirs.

#### Task Two:

Draw and label Crooks' face using the paragraph beginning, 'The room was swept ...'

- **His eyes lay deep in his head ... seemed to glitter with intensity**
- **Lean face**
- **Face lined with deep black wrinkles**
- **Thin pain tightened lips**

**Task Three:**

Throughout the chapter Crooks speaks to various characters. Who is he speaking to in each of the following quotes?

<b>What Crooks says ...</b>	<b>Who he's speaking to ...</b>
Cause I'm black. They play cards in there, but I can't play because I'm black. They say I stink. Well, I tell you, all of you stink to me.	Lennie
This is just a nigger talkin' an' a busted-back nigger. So it don't mean nothing, see?	Lennie
Want me ta tell ya what'll happen? They'll take ya to the booby hatch. They'll tie ya up with a collar, like a dog.	Lennie
Maybe you can see now. You got George ... s'pose you didn't have nobody. S'pose you couldn't go into the bunkhouse and play rummy cause you was black. How'd you like that? ... Books ain't no good. A guy needs somebody – to be near him.	Lennie
... every damn one of 'ems got a little piece of land in his head. An' never a god-damn one of 'em ever gets it.	Lennie
I remember when I was a little kid on my old man's chicken ranch. Had two brothers. They was always near me, always there.	Lennie
Slim comes in sometimes two, three times a night.	Lennie
And a manure pile under the window. Sure it's swell.	Candy
You guys is just kiddin' yourself ... you'll be a swamper here til they take you out in a box.	Lennie and Candy
If you ... guys would want a hand to work for nothing – just his keep, why I'd come an' lend a hand. I ain't so crippled I can't work like a son-of-a-bitch if I want to.	Lennie and Candy
Yes, ma'am.	Curley's wife
You guys comin' in an' settin' made me forget. What she says is true.	Lennie and Candy
Lennie's a nice fella.	George
I didn't mean it. Just foolin'. I wouldn't want to go to a place like that.	Candy